The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

March 2020 Volume 50 Number 3

Look Out Harry's- Here We Come

From The Prez

Dinner Meeting

This month we will hold our dinner meeting at Harry's Steakhouse. Harry's is located in Independence at 5664 Brecksville Rd. There is a map, directions, and a link to the menu on the CARS website, www.2CARS.org. We always suggest being there by 6:00, so we can have a leisurely dinner and start the meeting by 7:30; but when I get there at six, there are usually quite a few members already there. We always emphasize that dinner is optional, so if you just want to come for the meeting, it's perfectly all right. Many members only attend the meeting for various reasons, so please come to the meeting if you do not wish to have dinner.

Dayton Bus

Here is a reminder to consider riding the CARS sponsored bus to the Dayton Hamvention. We will leave early Saturday morning and return later that evening leaving the entire day to check out the manufacturer's displays featuring the latest and greatest in new equipment, the accessory suppliers and all their offerings, the enormous flea market that has more equipment than most hams can imagine, and of course, the excellent food offerings that have graced the event since the venue has been moved to the Greene County Fairgrounds. The bus is always a popular mode of transportation for many club members and hams who value the convenience of someone else driving and the companionship of fellow conventioneers. It can't be overstated how fortunate we are to have the largest gathering of amateur radio operators in the world just down the highway from us. It's amazing to look around at the Hamvention and see those who hail from far away countries and realizing what they had to do to get to Dayton.

[Continued]

Some of the CARS elder statesmen, Bill, WA8GEO; Bruce, N8DJX; and George, K8KR, sharing a laugh before the meeting.

Tech

The call for technical subjects to be discussed at various club venues has piqued quite a bit of interest in Digital Communications. Most members are aware the UHF side of the CARS repeater is set up to use Fusion digital. Some members have been checking in on it; and not only is it working splendidly, but the signal is noticeably stronger and cleaner with the stations that come in a bit weak and scratchy on VHF. For those of you who are considering purchasing Fusion equipment, now may be the time to take the plunge. Dayton always has some of the best deals going.

We will be having a presentation at the April meeting by Ron, K8RJH, and Andy, KD8SCV, on their experiments with DVM's (Digital Voice Modes). When the program was announced on the net, there was a lot of interest and positive feedback. To get a taste of what these two guys have been up to, check out Andy's article in this issue.

73, Toby, WT8O

Peep from the Veep
Mark, WJ8WM

I know many of you are members of more than one radio club. I think that's cool. It gives you many perspectives and more fun. I am a member of C.A.R.S. only. That being said, it doesn't mean I don't enjoy visiting other clubs. I have attended meetings at other area clubs when they offered a program or speaker I was interested in.

Another reason to network with other clubs is improvement. Toby and I have spoken with other leaders looking for ideas that could be incorporated into C.A.R.S. We are always interested in ways to make a better experience for the members.

One thing is consistent when visiting these clubs, I always feel welcome! It was no different earlier this month when I was asked to give a Grounding and Bonding presentation to the Medina County Amateur Radio Club, formerly M2M.

I walked in to smiles, introductions, and handshakes as well as some familiar friendly faces. They had a short business meeting and then we proceeding to a lively interactive discussion on the riveting subject of grounding. I ran a little over on time as usual, and want to thank the members for their hospitality and interest that night.

A good group of members braved the cold February night to attend the meeting.

It's not surprising though, that's just how we Hams roll!

Minutes of the
CUYAHOGA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
Busch Community Room
February 11, 2020

CALLED TO ORDER---The meeting was called to order by President, Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:35 P. M.

INTRODUCTIONDS---Introductions were made by everyone present.

PREVIOUS MINUTES---The minutes of the January, 2020 meeting were approved as published in the *Wobbly Oscillator*.

TREASURER'S REPORT---Treasurer Bob Check, W8GC, gave the treasurer's report.

NEW CLUB MEMBER---A new member, Scott Hanna, KE8NTW, was voted into the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society.

WO CONTRUBATIONS---Toby, WT8O, urged everyone to make a contribution to the *Wobbly Oscillator* if possible.

MEMBER INFORMATION---Toby, WT8O, pointed out that information about individual members can be found on our website.

PUBLIC SERVICE---Eddie, KD8FTS, reported that there will be little activity in public service until spring.

DAYTON BUS TRIP---Eddie, KD8FTS, reported that the club is sponsoring a bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention again this year on May 16, 2020. The price will remain at fifty dollars this year for the round trip. Eddie urged everyone to let the club know as soon as possible what their intentions are regarding the Dayton trip. This will assist us in planning the trip as well as reducing the possibility of the club losing money on the trip.

Some of the members at the February meeting enjoying each other's company.

VE EXAM---Our next VE exam will be given on Sunday, March 8th (the first day of daylight saving time).

REFREMENSTS AT OUR MEETINGS---Toby, WT8O, thanked Rich, NW8X, for bring donuts and Ron, K8RJH, for brining soft drinks to our meetings.

COFFEE AT OUR MEETINGS---Toby, WT8O, pointed out that unless someone volunteers to make coffee at our meetings there will not be any coffee available for the members.

[Continued]

NEXT MEETING---Our next meeting (March 10, 2020) will be at Harry's Steakhouse, 5664 Brecksville Road, Independence, Ohio.

50/50 RAFFLE ---The 50/50 raffle was won by George, K8KR. The amount was $37.50.

ADJOURNMENT---The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

After the meeting Scott, AC8NW, presented a video of a DXpedition to Peter–I Island that took place in February of 2006.

Ed Stevens, WB8ROK,
Secretary

Next CARS Meeting
Tuesday, March 10
7:30 PM

Harry's Steakhouse
5664 Brecksville Rd.
Independence
Dinner at 6:00 PM

Minutes of the CUYAHOGA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Board Meeting

Busch Community Room - South
February 11, 2020

CALLED TO ORDER---The meeting was called to order by Board President Andy, KD8SCV, at 6:10 P.M.

ATTENDEES---The following members were in attendance:
Andrew Evridge (KD8SCV) Bob Check (W8GC)
Toby Kolman (WT8O) Ed Stevens (WB8ROK)
Mark Moro (WJ8WM) Arp Viiberg (K8ARP)

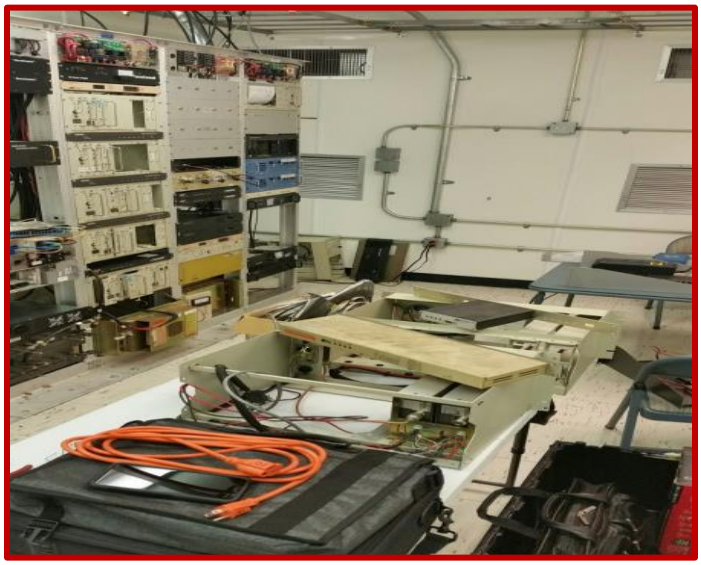
BOARD CHAIRMAN---Andrew Evridge, KD8SCV, was nominated and accepted the nomination for Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society. No other members were nominated for the office. Andy was elected unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT---The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 P.M.

Ed Stevens, WB8ROK
Secretary

Newly re-elected Chairman of the Board of Directors Andy, KD8SCV, along with Bob, W8GC.

The guys sure did a nice job setting up the repeater rack.



The work in progress at the repeater main site.

An Update on Brecksville Site Internet
Scott, AC8NW

I was hoping to write about the recent internet installation at the main site, but that has not happened quite yet. We had two install appointments that did not work out, the first because ATT didn't show up, and the second because we unwittingly scheduled it on President's Day and nobody was at the Service building to let the installer in. The third time should be the charm, and service should be hooked up the day after this *W.O*. comes out.

The last time I was out at the site with Ron, K8RJH, we realized that space would be needed for the new pieces we would be adding. We needed to figure out where to put the modem, router, Ethernet switch, UPS, Pi3 node, and likely an HRI-200Wires X interface.

In a previous *W.O*., we showed before and after pictures of the repeater installation, which had undergone a much needed rearranging and clean-up of wiring. This past Sunday, David, KD8ACO, Vince, N8OVW, and myself tore everything back apart, and again rearranged the components and found room in the stack to add a couple of rack mount shelves that Ron provided. This was a six hour project, but well worth the effort. Major thanks to Vince and David for their efforts, and to Ron for providing some nice pieces of hardware.

March Net Sked

MAR	4	AC8NW
MAR	11	K8RJH
MAR	18	KD8ACO
MAR	25	WT8O

Nets are run every Wednesday at 9:00 PM on 146.820 (PL 110.9)

March Birthdays

Shauna Welch, KE8MAC	3/1
Mike Cegelski, K8EHP	3/2/42
Dave Rickon, NF8O	3/3/47
Rick Lukich, KE8MAD	3/5
Blaine Coleman, KA8KPB	3/18/46
Dave Korow, AC8TN	3/18/60
Terry Pillatt, KB8DTC	3/18/46
John Dernar, KE8MAI	3/20
Connie Sheehan, K8CCS	3/20
Chuck Mehozonek, K8CVM	3/27/56
Simpson Huston, N8UZF	3/29/48
Mark Moro, WJ8WM	3/30/62
Bruce Bacik, N8DJX	3/31/42
Kim Balach, KD8FTU	3/31/88

The jolly group enrolled in the General class.

Joel, K8SHB, leads his group through the difficult curriculum of the Extra class.

David, KD8ACO, lends his expertise to the students in his Technician class in their journey to become licensed amateurs

VE Session

The next CAR VE testing session will be held Sunday, March 8th, at 9:00 AM at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisniesky Parkway, Independence 44131. Directions and a map are on the CARS website homepage. For information or an appointment please contact Metro, W8MET, at 216-520-1320 or metro351@sbcglobal.net As always, walk-ins are welcome.

No Matter if it's Fusion, DMR, or D-Star, Ham Radio Digital Voice Modes are Fun!
Andy, Kd8SCV and Ron, K8RJH

The growth of ham radio digital voice modes, DVM for short, continues unabated. Hams armed only with an HT, a hotspot, and a Wi-Fi or cell phone Internet connection can talk to each other around the world. (DVMs, regardless of type, use the Internet as a bridge between radios.) Of the estimated two million licensed amateur radio operators world-wide, nearly 10% (and the number is growing), are using DVMs.

Locally, fellow CARS member Ron Hollas, K8RJH, and I have been running some informal tests with our HTs and are having great success. Ron uses an Alinco MD-5 DMR HT and MMDVM Raspberry Pi hotspot and I use a Yaseu FT2DR and Shark OpenSpot2 hotspot. The hotspots are the key because they serve as the interface between our radios and our respective Wi-Fi or cell phone services.

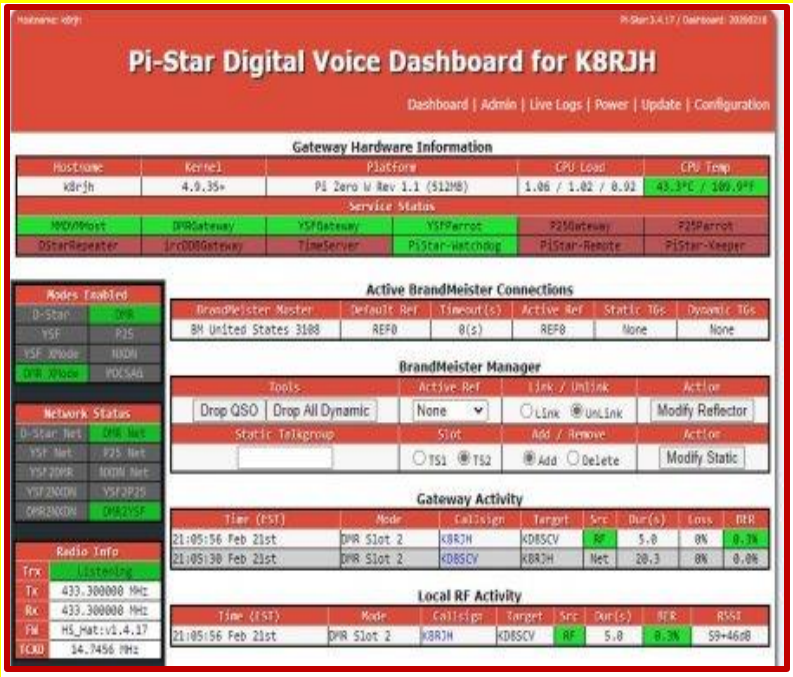
What's really interesting is that we can use the cross-mode functions in our hotspots to talk with each other even though the radios use different digital voice modes. (Ron's Alinco is a DMR (digital mobile radio) and my Yaseu operates on Yaseu's System Fusion.) If you're familiar with the cross-band repeat function many analog HF/VHF/UHF radios offer, you're on your way to understanding cross-mode, the difference being that cross-mode bridges two different digital modes instead of two different frequencies as is done with cross-band repeat.

The cross-mode capability expands the reach of DVMs tremendously and one can hear the results by simply tuning into one of the many talk groups (TGs) accessible in the DMR world. These groups can likewise listen to the many System Fusion users.

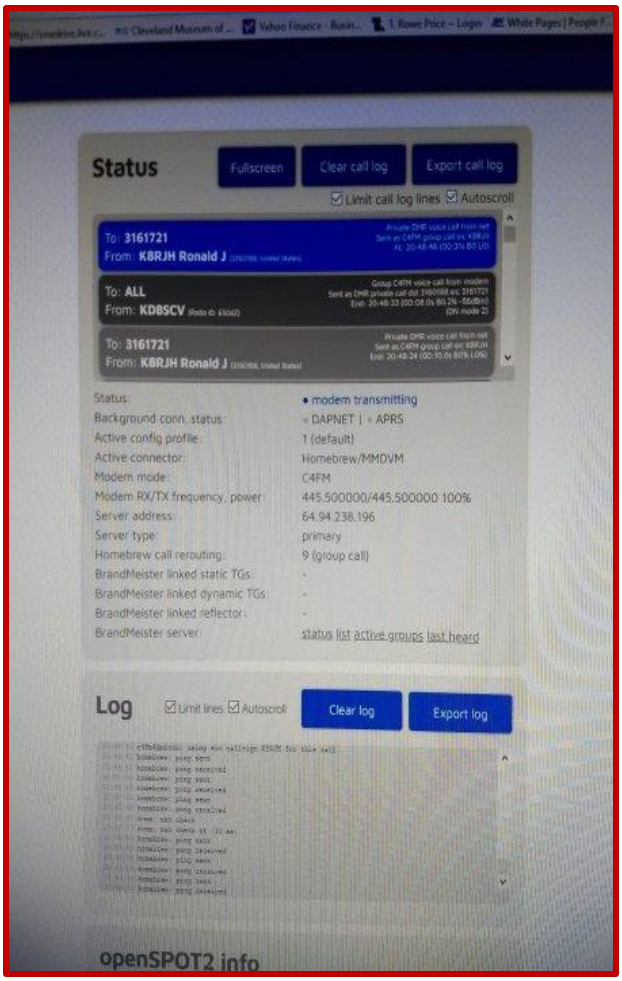
There is a bit of a learning curve in working with these modes, but the rewards are increased QSOs and beautifully clear audio. Of course, none of this works without the Internet, so traditional analog HF/VHF/UHF still rule in the world of point-to-point contact. But, during the present solar minimum, the various DVMs available to the amateur operator offer tremendous opportunity to reach other "hams" plus build continued interest in this great hobby. Feel free to ask Ron or me any questions about operating in the DVM world. Give DVM a try and join the fun!

KD8SCV's Yaesu FT2DR, Shark OpenSpot RF2, and iPad showing web interface page. (I can control the hotspot from a tablet, mobile phone, a PC, or the radio.)

Left. K8RJH's Alinco MD-5, DMR hotspot, and its battery.



Record of the same QSO between K8RJH and KD8SCV, but this one is from K8RJH's Pi-Star DV Dashboard showing the contact details. Ron and I were using the Private Call feature of the Brandmeister Network.



Right. Screen capture of status of cross-mode call between K8RJH and KD8SCV from KD8SCV's OpenSpot RF2 web interface page

Dues Notice

Reminder, your 2020 CARS dues were payable on or before today January 31, 2020. You are no longer in good standing if you have not paid your dues. **If you have paid thank you.**

Dues can be paid in 3 ways, online by sending the funds via PayPal to w8gc@2cars.org PLEASE USE PERSONAL OPTION, you can also mail a check to:
CARS,
7395 Brecksville RD.
Independence, OH 44131

or pay in person at the March CARS meeting. Dues are $26.00 per year for regular membership. Each additional family member is $16.00. If you are 60 yrs or older your dues are only $18.00 per year. CARS will offer assistance to anyone having a hardship. Please let me know if you have a hardship or know a member who needs help.

If for any reason you will not be paying this year let me know by email or calling me at 216-524-1750 so we do not continue sending emails or start calling you.

73
Bob Check, W8GC, Treasurer CARS

Great Lakes ARRL Division Convention
Toby, WT8O

You may want to consider attending the Great Lakes Division Convention March 14th and 15th in Perrysburg, Ohio. ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, will give the keynote address and will meet with members. Bob Heil, K9EID, of Heil Sound will be a guest speaker.

The convention will be held in conjunction with the Toledo Mobile Radio Association's annual hamfest.

A Wouff Hong Ceremony will be held just after the ARRL Banquet on Saturday, March 14th.

Additional information regarding the convention can be found at:

http://www.toledoglc.org/

http://www.arrl-greatlakes.org/

[The above information was taken from the ARRL February 10th, email message, Ed.]

CARS Repeaters

146.820 (-) PL Tone 110.9

Main Site – Brecksville

Receive Only Site – Brunswick

Receive Only Site – Shaker Hts.

Allstar Node 47067

EchoLink Node 343470 (K8ZFR-R)

****

443.825 (+) PL Tone 131.8

Digital Yaesu Fusion

Linked to 146.82 Repeater

Brecksville

****

444.75 (+) Receive PL Tone 131.8

449.75 Transmit

Stand-alone Not Linked

Shaker Hts.

Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

Robert Check, W8GC
Elected 2/10/15

Thomas Wayne, WB8N
Elected 1/10/17

Dwaine Modock, K8ME, SK
Elected 5/9/17

Toby Kolman, WT8O
Elected 10/10/17

Jerry Smith, NW9H
Elected 5/8/18

Ron Borkey, K8VJG
Elected 5/14/19

Marketplace

1 Astron PS-35A Power Supply **$95**

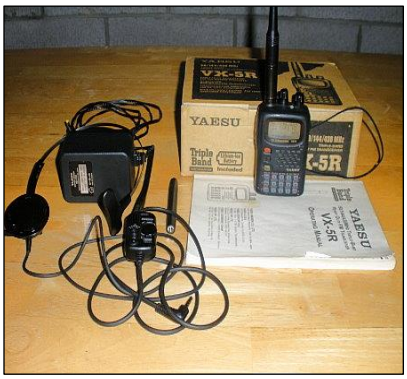
Contact Bob Check, W8GC
bob@2cls.com
216-524-1750

Yaesu FT 90 R Dual Band 2 Meter /440
Yaesu VX-150 2 Meter HT
2 Meter Ringo Ranger Antenna
2 Meter/440 Dual Band J-Pole Antenna
Best Offer

Contact Bob Ozog, KC8MRC
robertyozog@hotmail.com
440-232-0786

Icom 706 MK II G
$425
Contact Toby, WT8O
440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

ICOM V-8000 75 Watt 2 Meter
$100
Contact Toby, WT8O
440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net



Yaesu VX-5R
Yaesu VOX Headset
$75
Contact Toby, WT8O
440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

Radiosport

Contests

March 7, 0000 – March 8, 2359 **ARRL International DX Contest, SSB** 1.80-028 Ph
Exchange: W/VE; RS + SP, Non-W/VE; RS + power www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

Mar. 14, 1800–Mar. 15, 1800 **QCWA QSO Party** 1.8–50 CW Ph Dig qcwa.org/W2020-qso-party-rules.pdf
Exchange: Last 2 digits of year first licensed, name, SPC or QCWA chapter

March 28, 0000 – March 29, 2359 **CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB** 1.8 – 28 Ph www.cqwpx.com
Exchange: RS, serial

Special Events Stations

March 14, 1700 -2300 **K9TAL** Indianapolis, IN **The American Legion's 101st Birthday Celebration** 14.275 7.225; *Crossrds* EchoLink Confrence IRLP Reflector 9735 Certificate & QSL k9tal@legion.org

March 20 – March 31, 0000- 2359 **N6A** Healdsburg, CA **Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary Anniversary of Closing** 21.265 14.265 7.265 3.815 QSL www.qrz.com/db/ae6yb

State QSO Parties

March 1, 1500 – March 2, 0059 **North Carolina QSO Party** 3.5 – 144 CW Ph Dig ncqsoparty.org/rules
Exchange: NC county or SPC (State, Province, DXCC Entity)

March 14, 1500 – March 15, 2100 **Oklahoma QSO Party** 3.5 – 50 CW Ph k5cm.com/okqp.htm
Exchange: RS(T), county or SPC

March 14, 1900 – March 15, 1900 **Idaho QSO Party** 1.80-028 CW Ph pocatelloarc.org/idahoqsoparty
Exchange: County or SPC

March 15, 1800 – March 16, 0100 **Wisconsin QSO Party** All Bands (no WARC) CW Ph Dig
Exchange: County or SPC warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm

March 21, 1400 – March 22, 2359 **Virginia QSO Party** All Bands (no WARC) CW Ph Dig
Exchange: Serial, VA county, or SPC qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party

Sampling from March, 2020 *QST* - Pg. 79 and 83. See *QST* for many more events.

All times in GMT ZULU time

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CARS 2020 Officers & Committees

Audit
WJ8WM ** WT8O, KD8OUE

Audio/Video
AC8NW **

ARRL Liaison
WJ8WM **

Awards
W8GC ** WT8O

Christmas party & Summer Picnic
?? **, WJ8WM, K8ARP

Club Photographer
N8OWS **

Field Day
?? **, WT8O, WJ8WM, K8RGI, K8ARP, KD8SCV, AC8NW, AC8TN, K8RJH, N8BBB food

50/50
KD8SCV

Hamvention Bus
KD8FTS **

License classes
KD8ACO **, WT8O, K8SHB

Media Representative
KD8SCV

Membership
WT8O ** W8GC

NET
WT8O **

Newsletter
WT8O ** 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

Programs at Meetings
KD8QBB ** KD8BAL

Property Custodian's
KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

Public Services
K8ARP ** KD8FTS

QSL Manager - W8HBI, W8BM
WB8N **

Refreshments at Meetings & Picnic
K8RJH ** pop, ?? ** coffee,
NW8X ** Donuts

Scholarship
W8GC ** WJ8WM, KD8SCV, WB8ROK, WB8N

Sunshine (welfare)
Andy, KD8SCV ** 440-886-0723

Technical
AC8NW ** N8OVW, WJ8WM, KD8ACO, K8RJH, K8MD, KB8DTC

VE Exams
Metro, W8MET ** 216-520-1320

Web Master/e-mail
W8GC **
** chairman or co-chairman

2020 Officers

PRESIDENT
Toby Kolman WT8O 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

VICE-PRESIDENT
Mark Moro, WJ8WM 216-661-0342

SECRETARY
Ed Stevens, WB8ROK 216-267-5473
Alternate Secretary:

TREASURER:
Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750
Alternate Treasurer: Bob Robbins, K8RGI

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman
Andy Evridge KD8SCV 440-886-0723
Alternate Chairman: Mike Kemmett, KD8OUE

even year executive board 2 year term
K8SHB, KB8DTC, KD8OUE

odd year executive board 2 year term
KD8SCV, K8ARP, K8RJH

License trustee
K8ZFR
WT8O

License trustee
W8HBI, W8BM,
W8GC

February 23, 2020

Please reserve and pay for your "*2020 Hamvention*" ride to Xenia, OH Bus Trip ASAP.

Saturday May 16, 2020 CARS is again sponsoring a Bus trip to the *"2020 Hamvention"* at the Green County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH.

Every amateur radio operator in the world probably dreams about going to the Hamvention (formerly Dayton Hamvention) at least once. Please join us in 2020, it is an incredible event, 4th year in this Venue and offers something for everyone.

The Bus trip will cost $50.00 dollars per person, we will not stop for breakfast on the way down, but there may be a fast food stop on the way home. You are responsible for both your food and Hamvention tickets. Go to *http://www.hamvention.org/tickets.php* to order your tickets. ***The Bus is wheel-chair accessible***

Stop 1: The 56 passenger bus will leave promptly at 5:00 am from the Kmart parking lot at the intersection of Engle and Bagley Roads, in Middleburg Heights, Engle Road is 1/4 mile west of I-71, Kmart is behind the Gas station. Vehicles will be safe, there is security.

Stop 2: The bus will also pickup riders at I-71 & Rt 303 at the SE corner of the Kmart parking lot and will depart for Xenia at approximately 5:30 am.

When ordering tickets please tell us which stop you will be at, plus we need your email info, name, call and phone number.

Bus tickets must be purchased and paid for in advance.

If you have any questions please see Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS at a CARS meeting or call him at 440-668-7409. Checks must be made out to CARS and mailed to: Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS, 4758 Ridge Rd. #404, Cleveland, OH 44144 **attn. Xenia bus** ***or email:***
CARS-Hamvention-Bus@KD8FTS.com

73, Toby, WT8O